

THE NUR AF'SHAN

Vol. VII

FRIDAY:—NOVEMBER 13th, 1903.

No. 46

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Lord, what a change within us one short hour
Spent in Thy presence will avail to make;
What weary burdens from our bosoms take,
What parched ground refresh as with a shower.
We kneel, and all around us seems to lower:
We rise, and all the distant and the near
Stand forth in sunny outline brave and clear.
We kneel—how weak: we rise—how full of power!
Why, therefore, should we do ourselves this wrong,
Or others, that we are not always strong,
That we are ever overborne with care,
That we should ever weak or heartless be,
Anxious or troubled when with us is prayer,
And joy, and strength, and courage are with Thee?

These words of the saintly Archbishop Trench express the secret of the Christian's joy and strength. We all need to learn more and more the joy and power of prayer.

We have pleasure in presenting to our readers the following words from the pen of Rev. J. I. Haasler, Secretary to the Punjab Sunday School Union, concerning the work of our Sunday Schools:

"The results of the recent all-India Sunday School examination held last July present material for thought as far as the Punjab is concerned, at any rate, to all engaged in Sunday School work in this Province. A larger number of Urdu and Panjabi speaking candidates presented themselves than ever before, but there was a corresponding increase in the number of failures. This was especially the case in connection with the Teachers' and Junior Divisions, in which 75 and 72 per cent respectively failed. Though the Punjab almost heads the list amongst the Indian provinces as regards the numbers who enter for the examination, it stands, this year, low down as regards the percentage of passes. While various reasons may be adduced to account for this result, some suggested by the criticisms of the examiners, who kindly overlooked the papers, are especially worthy of consideration, and it is hoped that their publication will lead Teachers and Superintendents of Sunday Schools to seek to guard against such failures in the future.

(a) Some of the candidates were quite unprepared for the examination and their names should never have been sent in. The holding of a test examination locally or even the asking of a few leading questions previous to making up the list of candidates at any centre, would soon reveal those who were utterly below an average standard of proficiency.

(b) Others of the candidates had apparently not received instruction as to the proper method of writing their answers. In the Junior Division many of the boys' papers were very untidy, (lady teachers will be cheered to know that the girls' papers were much more neatly written.) Some only wrote the questions out two or three times. Several papers had not been blotted at all, and stuck fast to each other, and when they were pulled apart were unreadable. A little careful explanation previous to the examination as well as more individual supervision in it would have helped many of the younger candidates.

(c) Judging, however, from the remarks of the Rev. Dr. K. C. Chatterji, the examiner in the Teachers' Division, there is urgent need for more able and earnest teaching in many of our Schools. Some of the teachers who presented themselves for examination obtained only 2 or 3 marks each, their answers being remarkably wrong and careless. Many other candidates showed indeed a large amount of knowledge of the scriptures, but all "confused, indigested, and inaccurate." Dr. Chatterji urges that Sunday School Superintendents should make it their work to train the teachers, and should open a teachers' class where such does not already exist. He suggests that this class should meet twice in the preceding week the first time to study the lessons, and the second to pass an examination in the same.

The advice given by Mrs. Rallia Ram, who examined the Junior papers, is most suggestive to all who seek to become "apt to teach." This lady has written:—"As to the teaching and studying of the lesson, I have just one request to make to all the teachers, i. e., to prepare and know their lessons, as thoroughly as they can, and they will find that they can draw out more from their pupils than they ever did before. Let them ask the stories over and over again from the children, and make them put them into their own

words, giving little incidents attached to stories, and thinking out reasons, for various things. If the teachers would look upon Sunday School work in this light,—that they are training mind, heart, and soul for eternity, they would put all their energy into the work, and so make the children become accurate and definite. Let the children, too, do some talking and thinking and let them ask questions of each other. One plan that helped me and my class very much, was that we looked over the next Sunday's lesson, and portioned out the work, so that the children had to study the lesson to prepare the work given to them. And of course, each teacher and pupil must *review*; *review*; *review*, as much as possible."

Enough reference has been made now to weak points in connection with our Sunday School teaching. There is a brighter fact to record, and that is, that the teacher who secured the highest marks in all India in the recent examination viz 98 out of 100, resides in the Punjab. We heartily congratulate Mrs. Lillian C. Patah Lal of the American Presbyterian Mission, Sabathu on the honour she has gained for herself and our Auxiliary. Another of the American Presbyterian Sunday School teachers—Tara Gopal Nath of Ludhiana takes fifth place in all India.

Copies of the pass list of successful candidates together with the criticisms of the examiners can be had from the Auxiliary Secretary at 4 annas each.

In connection with the examination of the papers, a good deal of confusion and delay was occasioned through carelessness in their despatch. Although the names of the respective examiners were printed along with the questions of the various divisions, yet Senior papers were sent to the middle division examiner, and middle division papers to the Corresponding Secretary etc.

On Sunday October 18th the Universal Day of Prayer for Sunday School special services were held in many of the Schools in the Panjab in accordance with a prescribed form, and collections were taken on behalf of the funds of the Auxiliary. As the money thus collected, however, has not proved sufficient to meet the expenditure, the Treasurer, Miss Hewlett, St. Catherine's Hospital, Amritsar, will be glad to receive further donations.

A. Sunday School Convention is now being arranged to take place at Rawal Pindi early in April 1904 at which there will be sessions, both in English and in the vernacular. Among the subjects suggested for discussion on that occasion are the following: "Work amongst European children;" "Training of Teachers;" "Different Methods of Sunday School Organization;" "The Advisability of holding District Conferences;" "The preparation for and conducting of the annual examination;" "Decision Day, what it is, and how to observe it;" "A Model Sunday School class." It is hoped that this early preliminary announcement will lead readers of this paper, to endeavour to add to the success and usefulness of that gathering by their presence there."

THE PROOFS OF THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST, AND ITS PLACE IN CHRISTIAN THOUGHT AND WORK.

IV.

But let us turn from these *man-made theories*, which have emanated, like a miasma, from hearts that were unwilling to accept the truth, because of what it implies in regard to the character, person, and authority of the Risen One. These theories remind us of the snake-like gymnastics of a contortionist, but have nothing of the character of upright, noble manhood about them. In order to establish the possibility of their theories, conjectures, and suppositions, these opponents of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ have recourse, necessarily, to a denial of the validity of the historical records. They demand that Christians shall produce a *double proof of the Resurrection*,—i. e. double of what is required to establish any other historical fact.

First, "That the *direct testimonies* to the reality of this fact should meet all the requirements of historical testimony."

Second, "That *other events* which are historically certain could not have taken place, without this previous fact as a cause or explanation of them."

We accept the challenge. The testimonies upon which our faith is founded, are quite equal to the best that are recorded elsewhere upon the pages of history, and we also assert that there are certain indubitable facts of history, which can not be explained without the fact of the Resurrection as their cause.

(A). The Historical Records, or Direct Testimonies.

The first testimony to which we shall appeal, is found in the Book of Revelation. This book is acknowledged by all,—even the most destructive critics,—to have been written by an Apostle.

In chapter I: 5, he calls Jesus Christ the "First-begotten of the dead."

This can not refer to the immortality of the soul of Christ, for John most certainly believed this in regard to all the Old Testament Saints; and his Master had declared that God, who is the "God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, is not the God of the dead but of the living." It must mean that Christ was the *first*, "Whose Resurrection from death was an absolute birth to imperishable life." As it is impossible for one who is born into this world to enter again the womb from which he is brought forth, so Jesus Christ is the first to be born from the womb of death to undying and eternal life.

Again in Chapter I: 18, the glorified Master, himself, testifies to the reality of his death and resurrection in the words,—"I was dead, and behold I am alive forevermore." Chapter II: 8, mentions both the dying and the living again, as *equally Historical facts*.

Here we have the undoubted testimony of an Apostle to the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Further, the Gospels are acknowledged by all critics to belong to the Apostolic age, and the Gospel of John declares itself to have been written by an *eye-witness*. John XIX: 35—XXI: 24.

In this Gospel you will "notice the *vividness* in the story of the Resurrection, and you will see that in a multitude of minute and delicate details, it bears the impress of personal experience."

In fact the record of each of the four Gospels bears the same stamp of authenticity. The descriptions of the crucifixion, burial, and resurrection, were evidently recorded from the testimony of eye-witnesses, otherwise many of the details, or little life-touches could not have been given.

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The objections to the accounts of the Resurrection, as recorded in the four Gospels are along three lines; viz. (1) Variations in the separate accounts. (2) The simplicity of the stories. (3) The marvellous, mysterious character of the narrative.

(1). The variations in the Gospel accounts, written, as they were by those who wished to establish the certainty of accepted facts, go to prove the authenticity and truth of these narratives. Condensation and selection are the key-words for all the apparent discrepancies in the Gospel narratives. We may realize something of the condensation of the Gospel stories if we understand that all the discourses of Christ, which are reported by the writers of the four Gospels, during the three years of his ministry, would occupy less than eight hours to speak. We can thus understand, that, with such extreme brevity apparent discrepancies might arise, which are not real. With the selection which was inevitable and inseparable from the plan of writers, whose purposes and plans were so various, still further possibilities of apparent discrepancies would necessarily occur.

The variations are a proof that the writers were recording such well-known facts, that their mention in one order or another, or the emphasizing of one or another fact, would not be considered as endangering the credibility of the record.

No one of the writers pledges himself to relate all the facts of the history of Jesus Christ, and no one attempts to relate all the appearances after the Resurrection. Here are several witnesses recording the same marvellous events, and it could not be possible that all, without collusion and collaboration, would have their attention directed to the same thing in the same way, and with the emphasis upon the same phase of each fact. We find, however, that the impressions upon the minds of the various disciples, were harmonious, if not identical.

"The one note that sounds through all, is the startled joy of the disciples at the news of the Resurrection."

The purposes and plans of the writers of the Gospels and other records was very varied, according to the people to whom they wrote, and the circumstances under which they wrote;—e.g. Matthew wrote for the Jewish Church.—Luke more especially for the Gentiles.—John's purpose was to record the appearances of Christ after the Resurrection, to the assembled disciples, so those which are related as the 5th, 6th, and 7th, by others, are mentioned 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, by him.

Paul's purpose was to show the number and authority of the witnesses and therefore he leaves out the appearances to the women, which would hardly be accepted by the Roman and Greek world as strengthening the case.

Thus we see how the various purposes and plans of the various writers have affected the records, to do so.

To all reasonable and fair minds, however, the differences in the accounts are proof positive that there was absolutely no intention to deceive, for, if this had been the case, the simplest prudence would have made them careful to avoid every trace of apparent discrepancy in their records.

(2) In regard to the simplicity of the Gospel records, it seems to us that a simple dignified narrative is much more credible than one glittering with words and figures of the imagination. No impression can be more definite and strong than that made by the simple dignity of the stories of the Resurrection appearances. Had the disciples been visionary enthusiasts, or conscious deceivers, they would naturally and undoubtedly have represented the Lord as appearing, "His body glorious with heavenly light, and girded with gold, just as they had often heard the Rabbis read in the Visions of Daniel, when he saw the Son

of man coming in the clouds of heaven, His body like a beryl, and His face as the appearance of lightening: His eyes as lamps of fire, and His arms and feet like in color to burnished brass, and the voice of His words like the voice of a multitude."

Instead of this unearthly glory, the simple dignity and unpretending humanity, natural and true to life,—of the Risen Christ, and the entire absence of all extravagance in the stories of the Evangelists, stamps them as true and trustworthy records of the simple facts of the days after the Resurrection."

(3). The objectors, unable to make headway with such an argument, totally change the base of their attack, and now their objection is not to the simplicity of the record, but to the opposite quality,—the marvellous, mysterious character of the appearances as described by the Evangelists. They describe the Risen Christ as able to change His appearance at will, to be touched and handled, and to eat food, while at the same time this material body was not subject to the laws of matter, but could appear and disappear at will, and experienced no obstruction to His movements by the laws that ordinarily govern the body. These unexplained contradictions to the course of ordinary human experience in regard to the Resurrection body, are put forward as arguments against the credibility of the records.

Let us ask such objectors whether a desire to deceive, on the part of the Evangelists, would not have led them to keep out from the record all such unheard of and incomprehensible appearances? "Would not an invented story have shown the marks of invention at the point, if at no other?"

Was it not because the Evangelists considered the Resurrection to be beyond the shadow of a possible doubt, that they dared to record such apparently contradictory appearances?

They do not attempt to explain the change which came over the corpse of Jesus, as it arose from the grave, and finally ascended, before their very eyes, and was received out of their sight into the clouds of heaven.

Indeed this must ever remain a mystery to our human understanding.

Can we not, however, get at least the germ of a conception of the possibilities of such a change, from the transformation which occur in nature? Water, for example, falls in obedience to the law of gravitation but it may be changed into vapor which rises in apparent contradiction to this law. The opaque, dark flint, which obstructs the rays of light, may be changed into transparent glass, which will collect and transmit the rays of light, and thus reveal to us distant suns, or by its means we may search into the minute secrets of nature about us.

The slowly creeping worm of the dust is changed into the beautiful airy butterfly.

In each case it is the same material which exhibits contrary qualities.

So the Resurrection body of Christ was the same body, with the marks of the thorns on his brow, the holes in his hands and feet made by the cruel nails, the laceration of the terrible Roman scourge on His back, and the gash in His side, into which the fingers could be thrust and the bones seen and felt;—all this could be still seen,—and I believe will still be seen by the adoring throng of the redeemed as they fall before the throne and cast their crowns at His feet. But the body had undergone a change and was no longer subject to the natural laws that control matter, but was entirely obedient to the will of Christ. This is the spiritual body mentioned in I Cor. XV: 44-46.

Christ's pure, sinless body did not need the process, as our sin-stained bodies seem to do, of disintegration into

its primal elements, before its transformation. Its purity constituted its possibility of immediate transformation." Thus we see that this objection is as futile as the others upon which infidels build their hopes of victory against the Risen Christ. The arguments upon which they rely in their conflict with the King, Immanuel, were well discredited ages ago by Job, (VIII: 14, 15). "Whose confidence shall break in sunder, and whose trust is a spider's web. He shall lean upon his house, but it shall not stand: He shall hold fast thereby, but it shall not endure."

Current Thought and Incident.

CUBA'S SUCCESSFUL BEGINNING.

The Republic of Cuba has passed with much success and credit the first year of its experiment. President Palma is to be congratulated on the wisdom, fidelity and vigor which have characterized his administration. He had difficulties of no ordinary character to contend with, but he has managed affairs with tact, judgment, prudence and honor. Last week, on the occasion of the anniversary of the birth of the Cuban Republic, the Sons of the American Revolution sent him a congratulatory address, in which the divine blessing was invoked upon Cuba, and the hope was expressed that the liberty which had been purchased by the sacrifice of both Cuban and American blood, would long be perpetuated in the island, and that it will mean a rich and splendid inheritance to its coming generations. In this expression of good-will and expectation all well-wishers of this latest Republican experiment will join. In its pathway lie many obstacles, such as mixed races, and general ignorance and prejudice, and warring factions, but under a wise and patriotic government these hindrances can be overcome. Intelligence is spreading, and religious as well as civil agencies are improving, and ought to become more and more potential and modifying factors in the body politic and tend to bring the antagonistic elements more and more into harmonious adjustment and to develop a community of interest and relation that will prove lasting and helpful.

Certainly the beginning which has been made augurs well for the future. Among all the Latin-American countries which have tried to set up a Republican form of government, none compares so favorably with it at this initial stage. There seems to be ample justification for the summary of a member of the Congress of the United States, after a tour of the island and examination of its civil and religious conditions, that "Cuba has disappointed her enemies and more than gratified her friends." She is far better off financially and physically than the most sanguine expected. She has tided over one of the most critical periods in her existence bravely, honorably and creditably. She is stronger politically than ever before in her history. The dire prognostications of those who wished to annex her to our country and who resisted all efforts to give her a separate governmental function have failed of realization, and she enters upon the second year of her administration with courage, unity and hopefulness. Her commerce and trade have greatly increased. Her finances have been remarkably well managed. Capital is being put into her enterprises. The people are quiet and orderly. An experimental legislature has done far better than was expected. Sanitary improvements are reported.

With such gratifying progress made, annexation cries are dying out and the disposition generally throughout

the United States is to give her every encouragement and let her work out her destiny without interference or resistance. We did a good thing as a nation in liberating her from Spanish oppression and in setting her on the way toward freedom and development. It would have been a blot on our national escutcheon if we had annexed her to our territory after taking to ourselves so much glory for her liberation. She may need our protection, guidance and care at times, but it is the part of wisdom and justice, as well as of policy and interest, to aid her in testing and developing to the fullest and greatest degree her capacity for self-government. What the future has in store for her and for us, no one can tell, but it is to be hoped both the larger and smaller Republic will ever be in happy accord, as they have in common many interests and appear to be linked together by ties of an enduring character.

American Exchange.

EXPERIENCE WITH THE UNFAMED.

The giraffe is a very awkward animal to handle. A full-grown one ran away with me (says Mr. Carl Hagenbeck, the well-known wild animal dealer, in V. C.) in Suez, some years ago now. The rope I held him by got entangled round my arm, and I was dragged along the streets and fearfully banged about. I have had several exciting experiences with frightened animals. A freshly imported troop of elephants that I took into Vienna broke loose and ran away. I was upon one of them myself, the others all hugging close to it. I lost my elephant guiding hook, but I stopped him by biting his ear with my teeth, when all the others stopped with him. On another occasion a big African elephant got frightened and bolted in the streets of Hamburg. I held fast to his ears, however, and brought him to a standstill.

Alligators and crocodiles do not present any considerable difficulty to the young hunter, continues Mr. Hagenbeck, though care has to be exercised, for the lash of an alligator's tail is sufficient to knock a man over. Wild sheep and ibex are caught in the winter months by driving a herd into a valley where the snow has previously drifted. The animals sink into the soft snow and cannot extricate themselves. My men obtain hyenas by killing the mother and feeding her offspring on milk, the same as they do young lions. Zebras are now caught for me in German East Africa. My men employ thousands of natives, who capture them in the following way:—When they discover a herd quietly grazing they enclose it on every side, the

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men standing about one hundred to two hundred yards away from each other, in an immense circle, probably ten or a dozen miles in circumference. These men have each a stick to which is attached a piece of cloth or flag. They flutter these sticks in the breeze and drive the animals into a great enclosure, a kind of corral. How plentiful these animals are in some parts may be gauged from a letter I received recently, saying that at a recent drive fully four hundred zebras were surrounded, besides a number of antelopes, some of the latter being an entirely new variety. As the corral was not big enough the larger part of these animals were allowed to escape. Finally, eighty-five zebras and fifteen antelopes were secured. *C. & M. Gazette.*

MRS. BESANT AND THE SANCTITY OF THE GANGES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EPIPHANY.

Dear Sir,—Allow me to add a few words to the criticism passed by a contributor of yours on Mrs. Besant's novel explanation of the sanctity of the Ganges water.

1. Mrs. Besant says 'water is easily magnetised.' This is an astounding statement for a person of her attainments to make. Water is not easily magnetised if we are to believe the testimony of science, of empirical science too. In Silvanus Thompson's 'Electricity and Magnetism,' which is an authoritative work, it is clearly stated that water is *diamagnetic*, that is, repelled by magnetism.

2. Mrs. Besant's assertion as to the Ganges water in particular being magnetised by highly evolved persons can be easily put to the test by anybody who chooses to doubt the authority of science. If a magnetic needle is taken near any magnetised substance or body it instantly deflects towards it. Let this test be applied to the Ganges water and Mrs. Besant's bubble at once bursts.

3. Mrs. Besant believes that the Ganges water possesses antiseptic properties. Of course, as your contributor points out, even if it did possess such properties, it would not warrant Mrs. Besant's conclusion as to its sacred character. But I am afraid Mr. Haukin's statements have yet to be verified. A short time ago the statement as to the Ganges water killing health-injuring organisms appeared in *T. P.'s Weekly* and it drew from a Benares correspondent the following energetic contradiction:—'Neither the Civil Surgeon nor the Health Officer of Benares would admit that the Ganges water has any extraordinary antiseptic properties. The Municipality spends a large sum on having the Ganges water carefully filtered. After suffering the horrible indignity of filtration it can be drawn off at the street hydrant.'

4. It is pertinent to ask here why cholera breaks out every year or almost every year at Benares, if the water used by the inhabitants has the power to destroy injurious germs.

5. I have also heard it said—I don't know how far it is true—that elephantiasis is very common in towns and villages on the banks of the Ganges.

6. But waiving all these considerations it is enough to set one patent fact against the Besantine theory of the sanctity of the Ganges. I mean the theory that the river is sacred because some rishis of old magnetised it and that this magnetism it is which cleanses the pilgrim bathed from moral impurity. The whole volume of Ganges water periodically flows down into the Bay of Bengal and the river constantly gets a fresh supply from the Himalayas. It follows that if there was any magnetism communicated by the ancient rishis, it has long ago been transferred to the Kalapani, the mere crossing of which entails such

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Editor: The Rev. F. H. Russell, M. A., Dhar, C. I.

All correspondence relating to subscriptions, advertisements, &c., should be addressed to the Manager, Mission Press, Ajmer, Rajputana.

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GENERAL LAKE MEMORIAL PRIZE EXAMINATIONS.

A—THE SCRIPTURE EXAMINATIONS, 1904.

To be held in July 1904. Properly certificated lists of candidates, stating their age, religion and Panjab birth, must be sent to the Rev. M. E. WIGRAM, Peshawar, on or before June 15th, 1904.

SENIOR CANDIDATES are those who have passed the Middle School or some higher Examination previous to January 1904. JUNIORS are those who have not done so. No previous prize winner can compete again in the same Division.

The papers will be set in Urdu. Answers may be given either in Urdu or English.

CONDITIONS.—Candidate must be a native of the Panjab under 23 years of age. Christian competitors must not have studied in a Theological College.

SUBJECTS FOR 1904.

SENIORS 1.—I. Samuel. 2.—St. Matthew and the Epistle to the Galatians. 3.—General Questions on the Old and New Testaments. (For Christian Candidates only).

JUNIORS 1.—I. Samuel. 2.—St. Mark. Also, by heart, Chapters ix and x.

PRIZES.

SENIOR DIVISION: Rs. 25, 18, 12, 8.

JUNIOR DIVISION: Rs. 15, 12, 8, 5.

Prize winners also receive a book and a parchment Certificate.

B.—THE HISTORY EXAMINATION, 1903.

To be held in December 1903. Properly certificated list of Candidates, including age and birthplace, must be sent to the Principal C. M. College, Amritsar, on or before November 1st. Three Prizes are offered of the value respectively of Rs. 25, 15 and 10.

The Subject for 1903 will be Macaulay's Essays on Clive and Warren Hastings.

By Order of the Committee of Management.
October 1903.

barbarous punishment on many a Hindu in search of more advanced knowledge or practical training.

7. It must be distinctly understood that my criticism does not touch the orthodox Hindu idea of the sanctity of the Ganges. It is quite natural that a place should be regarded as sacred and visited by pilgrims which is associated in the minds of believers with the names and deeds of some holy men. Admirers of Shakespeare make a sort of pilgrimage to his home on the Avon. Why then may not people pay pious visits to places hallowed by glorious memories of a spiritual character. Only we must make sure that the personages who are said to have sanctified a certain place were really holy and worthy of veneration.

8. The Hindu idea then is in itself a spiritual one, while that of Mrs. Besant is materialistic. She is really reducing spirituality to purely physical and unmoral energy for the power of magnetism can be evolved as much by a rogue as by an honest fellow.

Yours faithfully,
K. B.
From the Epiphany.

FAILINGS OF CORRESPONDENTS.

"Not one person in ten folds a letter and puts it in the envelope right side up," said the correspondence clerk of a large New York publishing house, to a representative of the New York Times. "This firm receives upward of 1,000 letters a day, and it is my duty to sort them and send them to the various heads of departments. Each letter must be sent opened flat, with the envelope attached to a clip. In almost every instance the letter is folded and put in the envelope so that I have to turn it around before I can read it. I have talked with friends in similar positions to mine, and they tell me they have the same experience. It seems a trifling matter to a person who opens only five or six letters a day, but to me this loss of time caused by either the ignorance or carelessness of letter writers is considerable.

"Fully two-thirds of the letters received by a business house are filed. Cabinets for this purpose are arranged so that one must refer to the beginning of the letter, on the right hand side, to find the date. One-half the persons who write on matters of business, particularly women, put the date at the end of the letter and on the left hand side, so that we have to lift the whole bunch to get at it. These failings of correspondents are worse than illegible writing and incorrect spelling."

MISCELLANEOUS.

Another great discovery of tombs has been announced from Egypt, says the African World. In the neighborhood of Beni Hasan a vast necropolis has been found, and the graves already examined suggest that it will prove unusually valuable. The portico, so to call it, of one of the tombs shows the origin of the Doric column. Evidence beyond dispute has accumulated at the present day to demonstrate that the Greeks borrowed their notions of architecture, and most of their decorative patterns, from Egypt, but this is one of the most striking examples. Four hundred and ninety-two graves have been opened by the latest accounts, one-quarter of them untouched since they were closed and sealed little less than four thousand years ago. The details mentioned are astonishing even to those familiar with the marvels of ancient Egypt.

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London, Nov. 4.

The Revolutionists at Panama resent the non-Ratification of the
Canal Treaty and have seized the federal warships and imprisoned all
the naval and military officials, and organised a Government under a
triumvirate. Several American warships have gone to Panama and
Colon to maintain free transit on the isthmus.The Colombian warship *Boyaca* is bombarding Panama and eleven
Chinamen have been killed. The United States Vice-Consul has been
instructed to protest.**TURKEY AND REFORM SCHEME.**

London, Nov. 4.

The British, German, French, and Italian Embassies at Constan-
tinople were instructed to support the Austro-Russian Scheme.**THE MUKDEN OCCUPATION, CHINESE ACTION.**

London, Nov. 4.

Reuter's correspondent at Peking says that the Dowager Empress
has ordered Yuanshikai to Mukden to investigate and try to arrange
a settlement with the Russians, Yuanshikai is unwilling to go, believ-
ing it would be useless.**PROGRESS OF THE REVOLT.**

London, Nov. 4.

The independence of the Isthmus of Panama was proclaimed last
evening. A large and enthusiastic crowd of all political parties
marched to the headquarters of the Government troops, where Gene-
rals Toyar and Amaya, who had arrived in the morning, were
imprisoned.**AN AMERICAN EXPLANATION.**It is announced at Washington that the *Nashville* was despatched to
Colon in consequence of the unsettled and dangerous condition of the
Central American countries, in addition to the disquieting news from
Panama.**THE TAJ.**

Allahabad, Nov. 4.

The *Pioneer* hears on the authority of the Public Works Officer
who has charge of ancient buildings in Agra, that there is no founda-
tion whatever for the report that the Taj has been recently injured by
lightning.**TURKEY AND THE ARAB RISING.**

London, Nov. 6.

Details of the Arab rising at Assyr show that the Turkish troops
were completely defeated, losing five guns.Turkey has chartered two Russian steamers to take reinforcements
from Messina to the Red Sea.**THE RISING IN GERMAN S.W. AFRICA.**

London, Nov. 6.

The massacre of the garrison at Warmbad in German South-West
Africa has been confirmed, but the Hottentots spared the British
settlers.A mountain battery and the bulk of available troops have left
Windhoek for Warmbad, which is in the mountains, a month's march
distant, on the borders of Cape Colony.**THE MAILS ATTACKED.**

Bombay, Nov. 9.

The *Times of India* publishes the following news from Aden:—
Aden, November 1.—In consequence of the looting of the post some
time ago between Nobat Dokaim and Dthala, the post camelman has
been escorted of late by two mounted sepoy. On the 25th October
while the post camelman and escort were near Hardaba, a party of the
Kotabi tribe fired on them, killing the two sepoys. The camel
of the post carrier was wounded, and he fled. The attackers looted
the camels, arms and some of the clothes of the sepoys, and also the
mail.It is reported that a punitive expedition has been sent to chastise
them, and that it is bombarding their village, and fighting is going on.
It is said that seven sepoys and one officer were wounded in this affair
but operations are not yet concluded.**AMERICAN EXPLANATION.**

London, Nov. 7.

Mr. Secretary Hay has issued a statement defending the recogni-
tion of the Panama Government by the United States as in the strictest
accordance with justice and equity, and the only course possible in
view of the fact of American rights of control over the Isthmian
transit conferred by the treaty of New Granada of 1846, which had
become of transcendent importance through the acquisition of Hawaii
and the Philippines. It was the failure of the canal treaty which
caused the Panama revolt. President Roosevelt's course was thus
clear, namely, to prevent encounters calculated to impede the transit

and recognise the established Government. Mr. Roosevelt consequently advised a peaceful settlement, and notified to the world that the United States would no longer allow bickerings in Panama.

THE ALASKA QUESTION.

London, Nov. 9.

Referring to the danger arising from uncertain or disputed territory, he instanced the Alaska boundary, and regretted that the decision was unfavourable to Britain; but whatever America had gained and Canada had lost, was nothing compared to the fact that the question was settled for ever between the two closely allied and connected nations.

EUROPEAN CO-OPERATION.

One more danger about which he was not so sanguine, was the decay of many Oriental countries, when brought in contact with Western institutions, which had been a menace to Europe since France and England came to blows a hundred and fifty years ago over the falling empire of the Moguls. Nothing can meet this danger but the growing sense of the European nations that they must work together by open and frank diplomacy.

He dwelt upon the growing feeling for arbitration which makes every European nation feel that it is committing a crime by plunging the nation into war.

PANAMA NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE U. S.

London, Nov. 9.

Senor Biraustarilla, the Minister appointed by the new Government of Panama, has arrived at Washington. He is empowered to negotiate with the United States for the construction of a Panama canal.

AUSTRO-RUSSIAN DIFFERENCE OF OPINION.

London, Nov. 9.

It is now stated that Austria and Russia have not agreed to the plan for dealing with Turkey in connection with the Austro-Russian reform scheme in Macedonia.

TURCO-GERMAN RELATIONS.

It is considered significant that the German Ambassador was the only diplomatist received by the Sultan on his birthday on Friday last. The Sultan reviewed the cadets in the training ship *Moltke*, and his Majesty was repeatedly cheered.

THE LOCUST PEST IN WESTERN INDIA.

Bombay, Nov. 9.

Reports from the districts show that further damage was done by locusts in Kathiawar last week. Large numbers have made their way as far as Sind, thus leaving the Deccan unvisited. They have spread themselves over an extensive area, but the districts that have suffered most are Majand, Kohistan and Kamber.

CANAL NEGOTIATION.

London, Nov. 10.

The Panama Republic has appointed a Commission to negotiate the canal treaty.

U. S. INTERDICTION ON COLOMBIA.

Allahabad, Nov. 11.

London, 10th Nov.—United States are refusing to permit Colombia to send troops to the Isthmus of Panama.

COLOMBIA AND GERMANY.

It is reported that Colombia contemplates seeking German suzerainty.—*Pioneer Special.*

FIGHTING IN THE ADEN HINTERLAND.

London, Nov. 10.

An engagement has taken place in the Aden hinterland with the Kutebi tribe who lost heavily. Eight of the Hampshires, and one sepoy were wounded.

ABYSSINIAN DECORATION FOR THE KING.

London, Nov. 10.

Colonel Harrington has invested King Edward with the Ethiopian Order of the Star of Solomon.

THE TEMPORAL POWER.

London, Nov. 10.

The Pope, in a speech on the occasion of his first Consistory yesterday, rejected the idea of the dissociation of the Pope from politics. He was bound, he said, to follow in the path of his predecessors. The Pope must be free from outside power; and he, therefore, lamented the loss of the temporal power.

SEIZURE OF CHURCH PROPERTY.

London, Nov. 10.

The agitation in the Armenian provinces of Russia owing to the Government's confiscation of church property is intensifying. Soldiers have surrounded the residence of Catholics at the Etchmiadzin monastery forced an entrance, and seized the entire treasury of half a million roubles. The Armenians are bitterly incensed.

A ROYAL BETROTHAL.

London, Nov. 10.

The Princess of Albany and Prince Alexander of Teck are betrothed.

HOTTENTOT RISING IN THE CAPE.

Fifteen hundred Hottentot rebels are approaching the Cape Border, and police have been despatched to the scene.

SEED FOR SOWERS.

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